

BALTIMORE CITY--COMMISSION FOR HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL PRESERVATION

CDBG SURVEY YEAR:13
AREA:Sharp-Leadenhall

SURVEY NO.:B-2917
MAGI NO.:0429178502

ADDRESS:129 West Hamburg Street
CURRENT NAME:



BLOCK: LOT:
HEIGHT:3 stories
CONDITION:Poor

LOT SIZE:
MATERIALS:Brick
OWNER:Central District of the Churches of God,
In Jesus Christ Apostolic
ADDRESS:129 West Hamburg Street
ACCESSIBLE:Restricted
LIBER/FOLIO:SEB00863/024

USE:historic--school
DESIGNATION:

HISTORIC NAME:Wacker's German-English Institute
DATE:ca. 1860
ARCHITECT/BUILDER:
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE):

DESCRIPTION:

129 W. Hamburg St., located at the southwest corner of the intersection of Hamburg and Creek Sts. in the Sharp-Leadenhall Planning District of south central Baltimore, MD., is a three story brick building with a corner gable. The building has been greatly altered. The first floor is covered in formstone while the second and third floors have been stuccoed. The first floor is three bays wide with a center double door. On the second and third floors the original fenestration pattern is slightly visible beneath the stucco. It appears as though the building was originally four bays wide on the top two floors. The building seems to have its original first floor window frames. The eastern window also still has 6/6 lights. Both windows have wide formstone lintels. The windows and door all have flat arches with crosses for keystones.

SIGNIFICANCE:

AREA:Education LEVEL:Local

129 W. Hamburg St., the former Wacker's German-English Institute, has little architectural integrity, yet due to the important role it played in the life of the German population of south Baltimore it would still be considered National Register eligible within a district of undetermined boundaries in the area of the Sharp-Leadenhall Planning District. Wacker's German-English Institute was founded in 1853 (Cunz, p.231) by Philipp Wacker. The Institute played an important dual role giving the German immigrant the education needed to succeed in their new country, while also allowing them to maintain their ethnic and cultural identity. Germans have been one of the largest and most influential ethnic groups to settle in Baltimore. The history of the German immigrant is closely intertwined with that of the city. In the years preceding the Civil War Baltimore's immigrant population increased by 50%, 90% were European and a very large percentage of them German. (Browne, p. 191) In 1875 the school was transferred to the city as a public German-English school. Private German-English schools declined during the 1880s as public German-English schools became popular in Baltimore. The school closed in 1884 (Pencek) and has since served a variety of uses. It is now a storefront church--the Apostolic Holiness Church of the Lord Jesus Christ, Inc.

SOURCES:Browne, Gary Lawson. Baltimore in the Nation 1789-1861.; Cunz, Dieter. The Maryland Germans.; Pencek, Bill. "Inventory Form for Wacker's German-English Institute". Prepared for CHAP Survey of Sharp-Leadenhall, 1976.
SURVEYOR AND DATE:Mary K. Mannix, November 1987, based on survey form prepared by Bill Pencek, 1976

CITY OF
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

PROPERTY LOCATION DIVISION

WARD **23** SECTION **3**
BLOCK **932**

SCALE 1" = 50' DATE FEBRUARY 1967

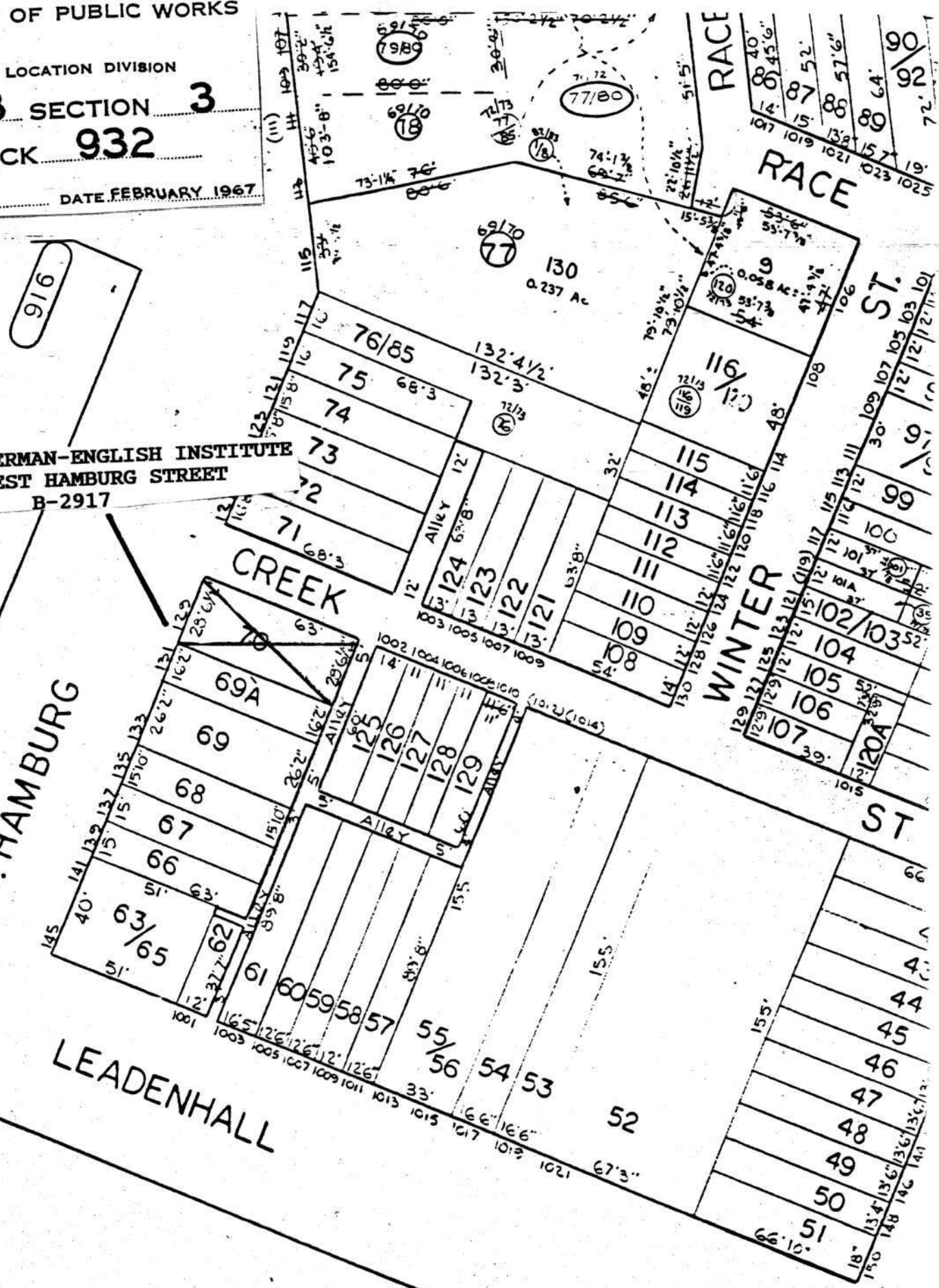
WACKER'S GERMAN-ENGLISH INSTITUTE
129 WEST HAMBURG STREET
B-2917

W. HAMBURG

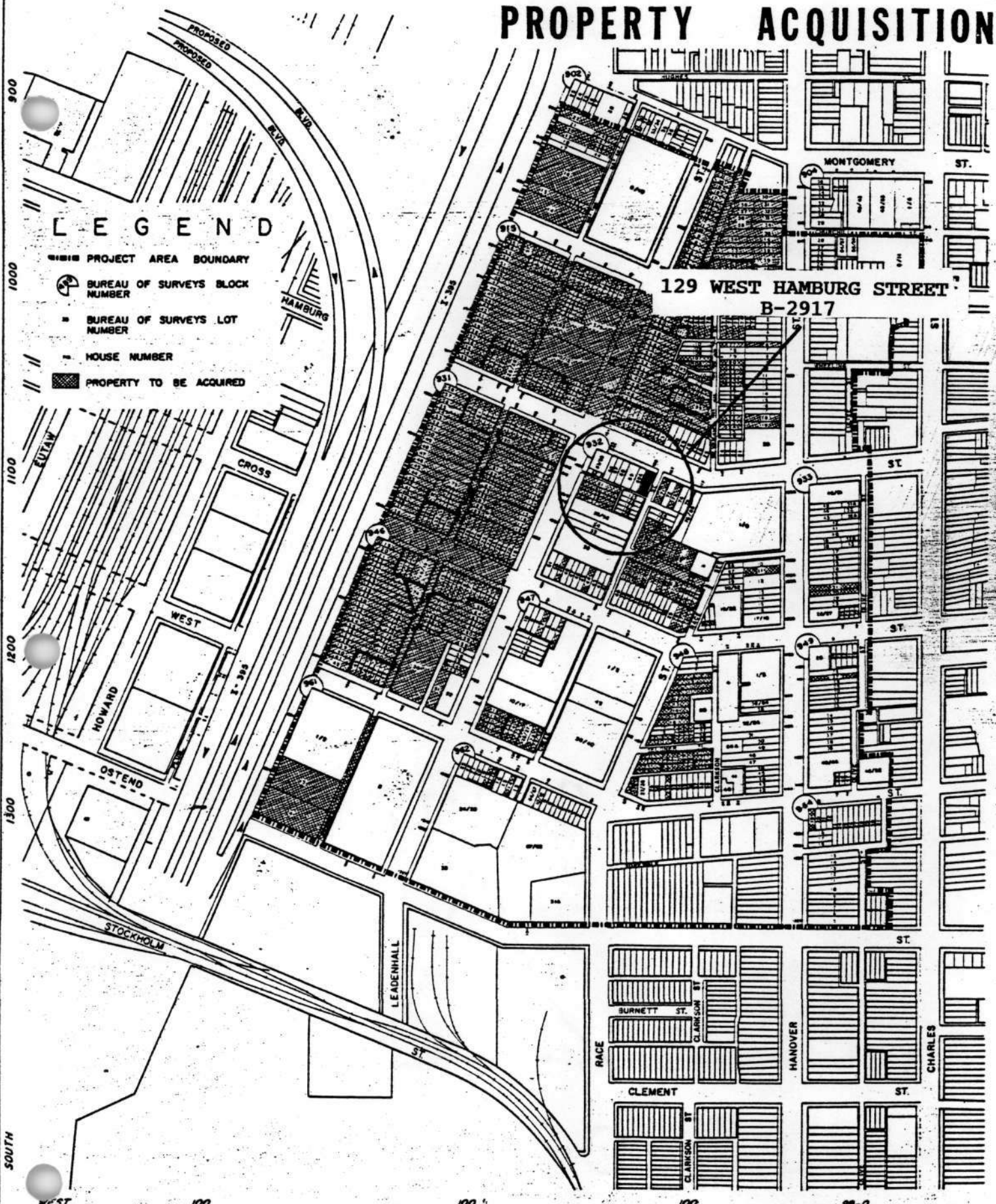
LEADENHALL

931

ST.



PROPERTY ACQUISITION



SHARP-LEADENHALL



PLANNING DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



PROPERTY ACQUISITION		
DATE: 8/13/73	REVISION: 1/7/76	3/27/76
DRAWN BY: H.L.G.	5/8/76	
APPROVED BY:	1/16/76	
	4/23/76	
	3/15/77	
	4/11/77	
	6/16/78	
	5/7/79	
		3
		EXHIBIT

BALTIMORE, MARYLAND



Wacker's German-English Inst
129 W Hamburg St (R-247)
Baltimore (City), Maryland
Photo: Janet Davis
Date: August 1987
Nea. Loc.: MD Hist Trust
North Elevation

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

B-2917

12

BLOCK 932

SLIDE #16

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

MAG#0429155502

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Wacker's German-English Institute

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

129 W. Hamburg Street

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☐ OCCUPIED☒ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO vacant

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Records Office Room 601

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

Baltimore City Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

STATE

Maryland 21202

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

City of Baltimore Neighborhood Survey

DATE

1976

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☒ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Commission for Hist. & Arch. Pres.

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

STATE

Maryland 21202

7 DESCRIPTION

B-2917

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT
☐ GOOD
☒ FAIR
☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This three story high, four bay wide building stands on a corner site with its party wall exposed as well. Apparently the building which once shared the party wall would have helped explain the unusual roof of the existing structure, which amounts to one fourth of a truncated hip roof.

Details of the building walls have been obscured by stucco. The front of the building has been formstoned on the first floor level, where a central entrance at ground level is flanked by a pair of small rectangular window. Above rise two floors of sheer stucco walls. The western exposed party wall is entirely stuccoed, with small square brick chimneys rising above the roofline at two points.

The eastern, alley wall of the building is stuccoed, and is regularly fenestrated with 3 window openings at each floor. Windows are double hung with 6/6 lights. A brick cornice runs at the roof line.

The rear wall is built of brick laid in common bond. A shed roofed, two story high back building with peak parallel to the alley extends from the central two bays of the rear. The rear of the main building and the alley face of the back extension have been stuccoed through the second floor level.

To the right of the extension on the rear wall of the main building, single boarded windows are at first and second floors. At the third floor level, is a double hung window with 6/6 lights, with running brick lintels and wooden sills. The central two windows of the third floor are boarded. The third floor window at the extreme left is segmental arched with wood sill and is double hung with 2/4 lights.

The extension has an entrance and two windows on the first floor and a pair of windows on the second floor of the alley side.

Square brick chimneys rise on the outside of the rear wall of the main building, one to the left of the right window, the other to the right of the window to the left. The latter chimney starts at a point beneath the window, breaking diagonally across the second story to the right side of the third floor window. A rectangular brick chimney with a brick arch cover rises from the rear wall of the back extension.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE**PERIOD****AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW**

<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

c. 1860

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Between 1860 and 1884, 129 W. Hamburg Street served as Wacker's German-English Institute. Founded by Phillip Wacker, the school rose to meet the needs of the tremendous German immigrant population which started to enter Baltimore in great numbers as early as the 1840's. The first public German-English school in Maryland was begun in Baltimore in 1874.

The Wacker Institute was but one of the many schools, clubs and societies^{IES} founded by Germans in nineteenth-century Baltimore, but it is one of the very last such structures to remain. The acculturation of Germans has been so thorough as to have left their traces invisible in Baltimore, and their opera houses, meeting halls and charitable society buildings are gone.

129 W. Hamburg Street, built sometime in the late 1850's is an unusual brick structure which figures prominently on Sachse's 1869 View of Baltimore. A commodious building with a high pitched roof, it has more recently been used as a storefront church. Its preservation should be considered as a component of any renovation in Sharp-Leadenhall.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Bill Pencek, Planning Assistant

ORGANIZATION

Commission for Hist. & Arch. Pres.

DATE

1976

STREET & NUMBER

100 N. Holliday Street

TELEPHONE

396-4866

CITY OR TOWN

Baltimore

STATE

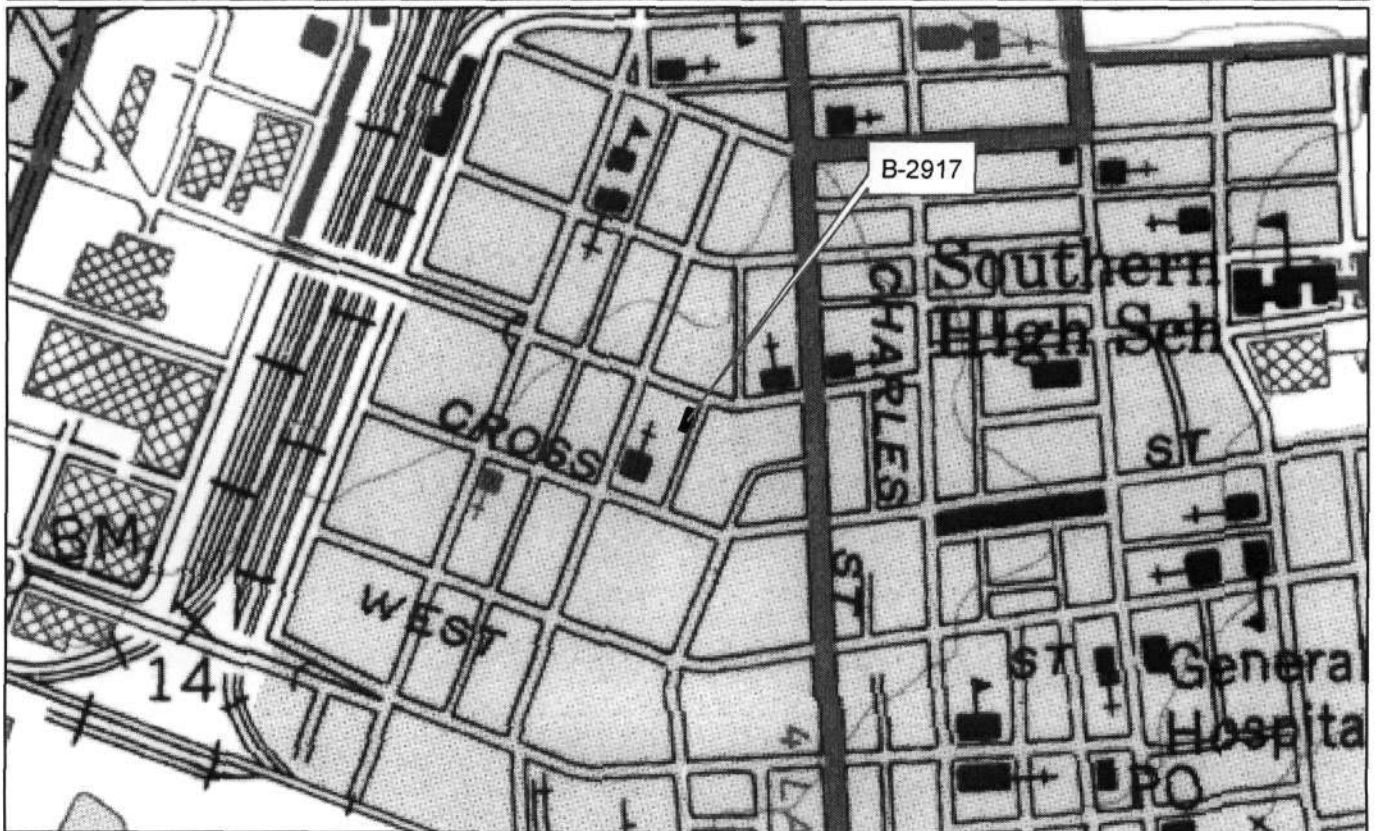
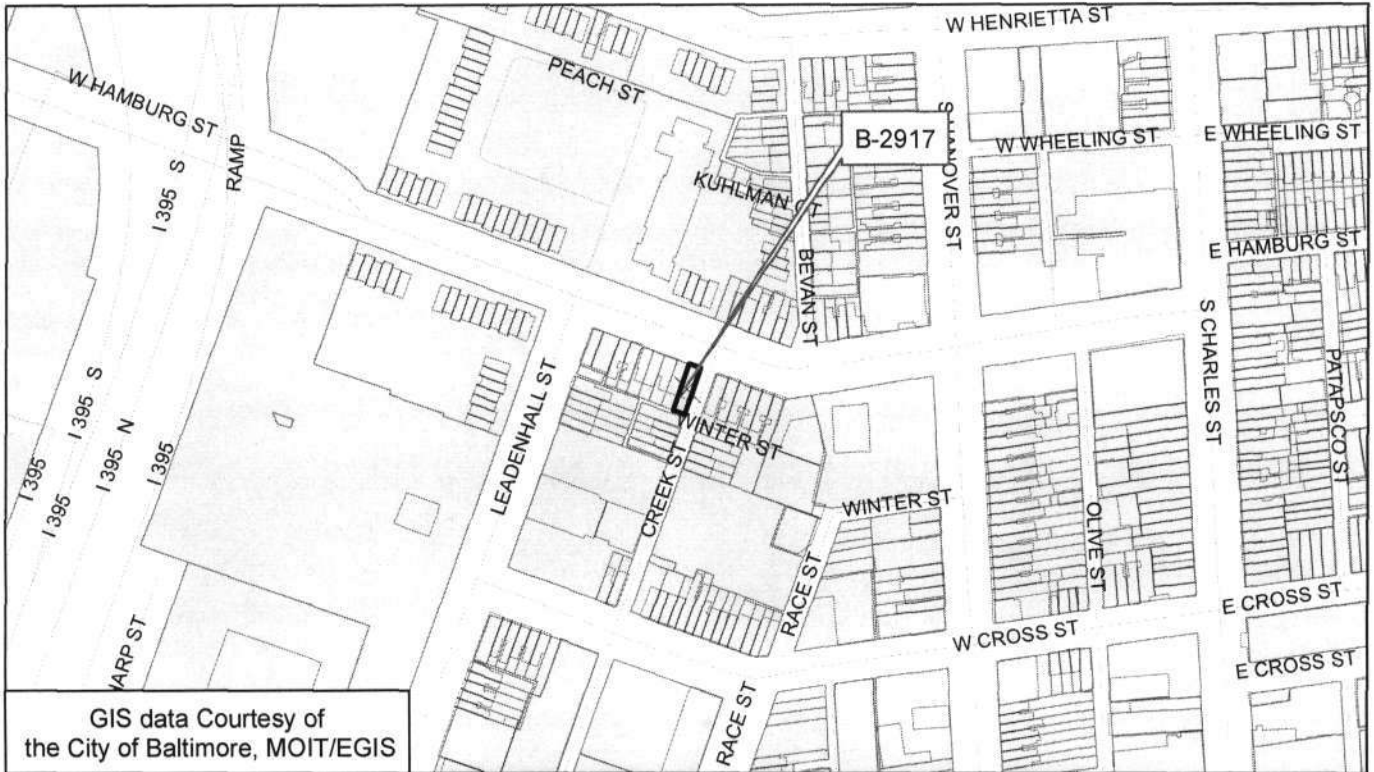
Maryland 21202

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

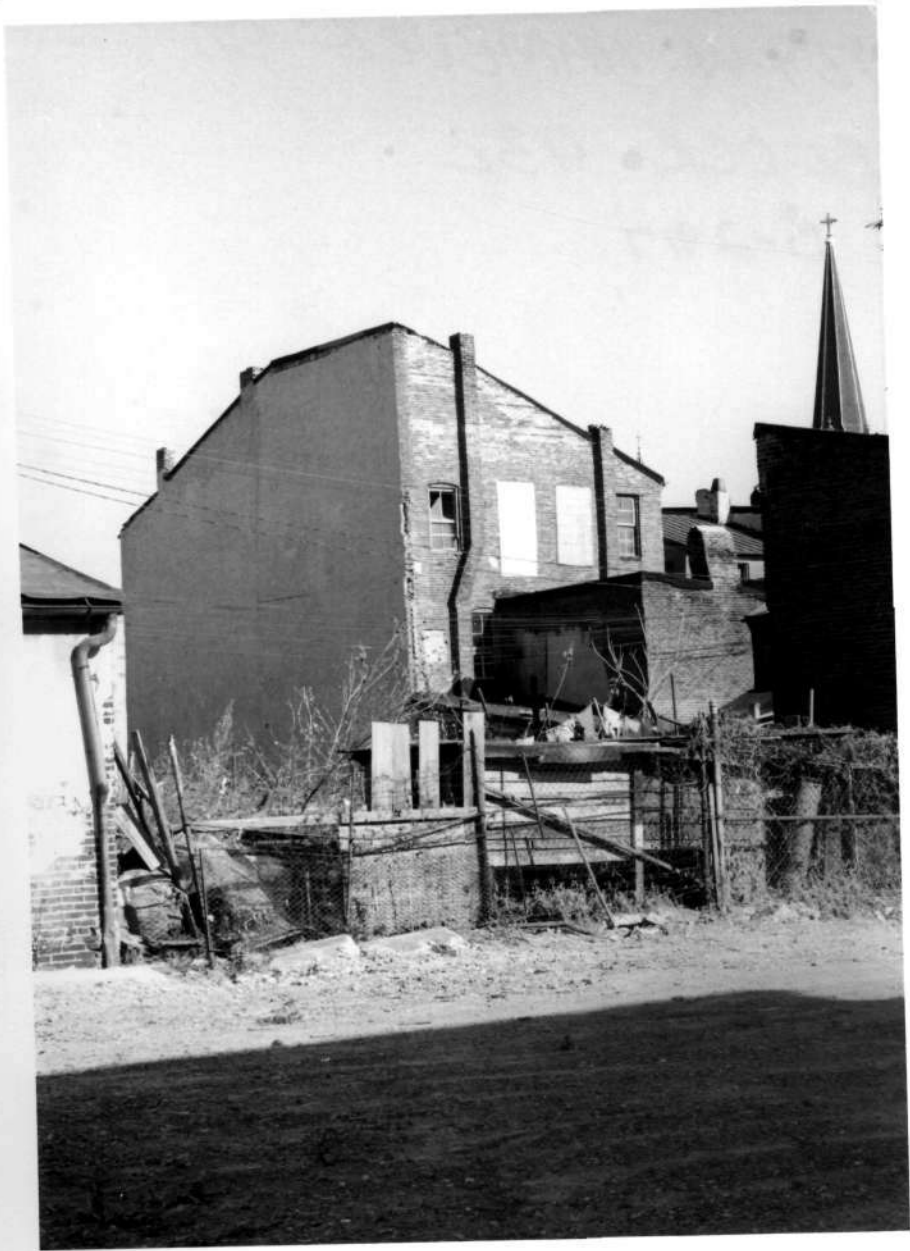
B-2917
Wacker's German-English Institute
129 W. Hamburg Street
Block 0932 Lot 070A
Baltimore City
Baltimore East Quad.





129 W. HAMBURG ST.
BLOCK 932

B-29/7



129 W. HAMBURG ST.

BLOCK 932

B-2917